

REMARKS AND ARGUMENTS

The drawings have been amended to recite the inclusion of Figures 22 and 23, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel.

No new matter is added.

On August 22, 2001, Applicants received the Notice, which indicated that Figures 22 and 23 described in the Specification were omitted from the application. Further, the Notice required that Applicants either provide evidence that Figures 22 and 23 were in fact deposited with the PTO on July 13, 2001, or supply the missing item together with a supplemental oath or declaration under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.63 and 1.64.

Figures 22 and 23 of the present application are Figures 22 and 23 of USSN 09/729,485, filed December 4, 2000. A proper continuation-in-part of USSN 09/729,485 was filed March 8, 2001, as USSN 09/802,318, also containing the same Figures 22 and 23, and incorporating the parent application by reference. USSN 09/905,129 was filed on July 13, 2001 as a proper continuation-in-part of USSN 09/802,318, and incorporates by reference, in their entirety, both USSN 09/802,318 and USSN 09/729,485, as is evidenced by page 1, paragraph 1 of the specification as filed in the present application.

Thus, Figures 22 and 23 were incorporated by reference into the present application by way of the specification, which incorporates by reference both USSN 09/729,485 and 09/802,318, both of which contained Figures 22 and 23, supplied herewith. Applicants therefore request that the Assistant Commissioner, under any of the applicable rules, including 37 C.F.R 1.181, accept Figures 22 and 23 herewith, which were actually filed with the present

applications by way of incorporation by reference of USSN 09/802,318 filed March 8, 2001, and USSN 09/729,485, filed December 4, 2000, both of which included Figures 22 and 23 herewith.

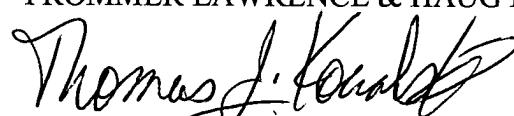
Thus, submitted herewith is a copy of the Notice of Omitted Item(s), and Figures 22 and 23 of the application.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be accorded a filing date as of the date of receipt by the Patent Office of the original application papers on July 13, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,
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